

bailiff called a young teenager who simply wanted to express their constitutional rights in walking out of a high school to claim some sort of dignity on immigration called them a wetback, and that same community charging them with misdemeanors for simply expressing their freedom of speech.

I know this Nation can do better and I know that we can do better. That is why I join with Congressman BACA to say that hateful speech generates hateful acts. This is the beginning of a hate crime if we begin to talk in a hateful way. Immigration can be done comprehensively, border security, and comprehensive immigration reform. Let us tone it down. Let us be reasonable and respectful.

I would like to yield the rest of my time to Mr. GREEN from Texas.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I would like to thank my Houston neighbor for yielding me the balance of her time.

Racial intolerance has divided this country since the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. The history of immigrants coming to this country teaches us that when one particular ethnic group comes to this country in large numbers, that group becomes the target of false suspicions and contempt. This has been true in our Nation's history, whether it be the Irish, the Germans, the Italians, or Chinese immigrants.

In 1921, Congress passed the first immigration restrictions because we were worried immigrants were coming in and taking our jobs. Now today we face a similar climate. We navigate through our latest effort to address immigration in this country with Hispanics, mostly from Mexico. Just last month, in my home county, we had a young Mexican American teenager who was nearly beaten to death and sexually assaulted by two white teenagers who were known to be racist.

Unfortunately, our country has seen a rise in crimes targeting particular races, ethnicities, and genders over the past few years. To combat this growing trend, many States and the Federal Government have considered and passed legislation designated as hate crimes legislation. If someone attacks me or my property because I am an Anglo, that is a crime and they should be punished. But if they attack me because I am an Anglo and they destroy my property or attack me, that should have a higher punishment level. And that is true in this country and it should be true in many of our States, and we need to make sure that happens. It is bad enough to have your property or you hurt, but somebody just doing wrong against you but doing it because they don't like your race, your ethnicity, the color of your skin, your religion or your gender is just wrong. Everyone should be protected from hate crimes regardless of where they occur.

Our Federal law only covers hate crimes if it is a federally protected ac-

tivity. This young man was actually at a private residence, so the U.S. Attorney says they can't file a hate crime in Texas. We are still working on the state law. Hopefully, the district attorney will do it.

All Americans should be outraged by these video games that the Internet depicts shooting caricatures of Mexicans crossing our border. This only incites needless hatred and creates more confusion on an issue that is already complicated. I hope my colleagues in the House will join me in denouncing and stopping any racial overtones surrounding the immigration issue. Our country is made up of immigrants; we all came from somewhere. Some of us were lucky enough, our parents got here sooner than others, but we are representative of every nationality and every ethnicity in the world.

I thank Congressman BACA for putting this together and my colleague from Texas for yielding.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Let me close by simply thanking you and saying that, in addition, we want to make sure that we don't undermine the Voter Rights Act by fighting over the language provision that should be included. That is actually part of the history of the Voting Rights Act, and I am very proud of Barbara Jordan some years ago the Voter Rights Act to include language minorities.

Mr. Speaker, hate crimes, hate acts, we need to recognize that this is what generates out of lack of understanding, and I believe Americans are better than this and understand the value of the comprehensive immigration reform border security without the attacking on young people who are innocent and become innocent victims of our hateful talk. We can do better and America can do better.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 57 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 11 a.m.

□ 1100

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 11 a.m.

#### PRAYER

The Reverend Joseph J. Kleinstuber, Pastor, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Bryantown, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

Almighty Father, we do well to join all creation in heaven and earth in praising You, our mighty God.

You made us in Your own image and set us over all creation. Once You chose a people and gave them dignity, and when You brought them out of

bondage to freedom, they carried with them the promise that all men and women would be blessed and that all would be free.

It happened to our forefathers who came to this land as if out of a desert into a place of promise and hope.

It happens to us still and we entrust the United States of America and this deliberative body into Your loving care.

You are the rock on which this Nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We ask that You hold us in the palm of Your hand and God bless America. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STEARNS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### WELCOMING REVEREND JOSEPH J. KLEINSTUBER

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am very, very pleased to welcome to our midst Father Joseph Kleinstuber, a constituent of mine and an extraordinarily loved leader in our area. Father Kleinstuber is pastor of St. Mary's Church located in my district in Bryantown.

Father Kleinstuber was born in Washington, D.C. He attended Gonzaga High School, as well as Georgetown and George Washington Universities before going on active duty as an officer in the Air Force. He spent 3 years in the Air Force as chief of the Aviation Physiology Department at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas.

Following his military service, he studied at St. Vincent Seminary and was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1964.

Prior to coming to St. Mary's, Father Kleinstuber served as an assistant pastor of St. Anthony Church in the District and St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. He also worked for 25 years at St. John's College High School here in Washington as chaplain, director of counseling, a member of the science department, and, of interest to our Speaker, wrestling moderator.